

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 022637

61

ORIGIN PM-03

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NEA-06 /010 R

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NEA: MR BUCK (PHONE)

----- 083856

R 061540Z FEB 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 022637

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 022637 ACTION LONDON ABU DHABI
ADDIS ABABA BANGKOK BLANTYRE CANBERRA CAPE TOWN COLOMBO
DACCA DAR ES SALAAM ISLAMABAD JAKARTA JIDDA KUALA LUMPUR
KUWAIT LUSAKA PORT LOUIS PRETORIA RANGOON SANAA SINAGPORE
TANANARIVE TEHRAN TOKYO THE HAGUE WELLINGTON NATO MANILA
CAIRO INFO MOSCOW PEKING USUN TEL AVIV HONG KONG CINCPAC
CINCEUR CINCUSANAVEUR CINCLANT 04 FEB

QUOTE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR/UK/IO

SUBJECT: DIEGO GARCIA CONTINGENCY PRESS STATEMENT

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

CINCEUR FOR POLAD

CINCUSNAVEUR FOR POLAD

CINCLANT FOR POLAD

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PAGE 02 STATE 022637

REF: A. STATE 22250

B. LONDON 01554

1. TO CLEAR UP POSSIBLE DISCREPANCIES IN CONTINGENCY STATEMENT SET FORTH IN PARAGRAPH 9, REF A AND MODIFIED REF B, THE STATEMENT IS RETRANSMITTED BELOW IN ITS FINAL APPROVED FORM. REQUEST DISREGARD PREVIOUS TEXT.

2. ALTHOUGH JOINTLY AGREED TEXT WILL NOT BE UTILIZED BY UK, POSTS MAY USE ON A CONTINGENCY BASIS IN RESPONSE TO PRESS QUERIES FOLLOWING PARLIAMENTARY PQ AND NOTIFICATION OF THIRD COUNTRIES. REQUEST PASS REVISED TEXT TO BRITISH.

3. US CONTINGENCY STATEMENT:

THE UNITED STATES PLANS, WITH THE AGREEMENT OF THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT, TO IMPROVE SUPPORT CAPABILITIES AT THE NAVAL COMMUNICATIONS FACILITY LOCATED ON THE ISLAND OF DIEGO GARCIA IN THE INDIAN OCEAN. WITH NEW CONSTRUCTION AUTHORIZED BY THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT AND U.S. CONGRESS, THE SMALL ISLAND IN THE MIDDLE OF THE INDIAN OCEAN WILL PROVIDE SAFE ANCHORAGE FOR US/UK NAVAL VESSELS, AND ADDITIONAL PARKING FOR AIRCRAFT. A DOLS 29 MILLION CONSTRUCTION PACKAGE, WHICH IS PLANNED AS PART OF THE SUPPLEMENTAL MILITARY APPROPRIATIONS BUDGET TO BE SUBMITTED TO CONGRESS, WILL PERMIT IMPROVEMENT OF SHIP SUPPORT FACILITIES, LENGTHENING OF THE EXISTING 8000-FOOT RUNWAY, EXPANSION OF THE AIRFIELD PARKING AREA, AND CONSTRUCTION OF ADDITIONAL FUEL STORAGE FACILITIES AND BILLETS. CONSTRUCTION SHOULD BE COMPLETED IN 1976.

THE NEW FACILITIES WILL PROVIDE LIMITED SUPPORT TO US/UK FORCES PRESENT OR DEPLOYED IN THE INDIAN OCEAN AREA FROM TIME TO TIME. KISSINGER UNQUOTE KISSINGER

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